



Governor Brian Schweitzer

*Montana*

**Department of Labor and Industry  
Business Standards Division**

EXHIBIT 1  
DATE 3/15/2011  
SB 118

## MONTANA BOARD OF OUTFITTERS

March 2, 2011

Chairman Ted Washburn  
House Fish, Wildlife and Parks Committee

Chairman Washburn and members of the House Fish, Wildlife and Parks Committee,

The Board of Outfitters reviewed SB 118, which would allow outfitters to "contract for" equipment used in their businesses as an alternative to holding the equipment under a lease or owning it. Currently, the law leaves to question whether it is permissible for outfitters to contract with guides for services requiring the use of the guides' equipment (e.g. boats and life preservers) without a formal written lease for the equipment apart from the contract for services. This bill removes that question in a common sense approach; the Board supports SB 118 and requests that the Committee pass this bill.

Thank you for considering the Board of Outfitter's positions with respect to this bill.

Respectfully,

  
Trudy Phippen  
Executive Director  
Montana Board of Outfitters